



Kelford School
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Friday 17 November 2023

Dear Families,

I hope you are all well and you have had a good week. In school we have been working hard reviewing the progress we have made towards our school improvement priorities. This work has involved support from Jacky Tattershall (Nexus Assistant CEO) and Joanne Cliff (Executive Assurance Partner) who came to school yesterday to listen to leaders present our curriculum.

DIARY DATES

Just a quick reminder that our Parent & Carer day is Wednesday 22nd November 10am – 4.15pm. Your child’s class teacher will confirm your time slot with you once you return your form. I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as I can.

Secondly, we have changed the date of our Christmas Fair so we have a little more time to prepare. This will now take place on Thursday 14th December. Times will be confirmed with you nearer the time.

ABSENCE MONITORING

As you know we are closely monitoring attendance, following the Rotherham School Attendance Matters Pathway. Attendance below 90% is classed as persistent absence and this is a huge area of work for all schools, and is considered to be having an impact on a huge number of children and families in schools across the country. We will be sending letters to all families where their child's absence falls below 90% next week. We do recognise that there are many illnesses circulating at this time of year and that this does affect attendance. If you would like to discuss your child's attendance then please do get in touch with Catherine Bentley at school so that we can work together on achieving the best possible attendance and outcomes. We will also be celebrating those pupils who have good and improving attendance as it is important to recognise individual circumstance and achievements.

PRIMARY

This week in Primary we have continued to work had on our Topic 'Time Travellers'. The pupils in Rainbows and our Little Explorers at Kimberworth have extended their learning about Egypt through sensory exploration. Work related to our story 'It's Miles to the Nile' has provided plentiful opportunities to learn about the country and climate. In particular, the edible sand, sweet smelling honey and ancient artefacts hidden in ice, have been popular with pupils exploring the different resources with their senses.



In Orange class, pupils have practised their skills in sculpture and used clay to express themselves in art. Alongside this, they looked at the timeline of the Vikings and have continued to find out events that happened in the past.

Dates for your diary Autumn 2:

| <i>Name of Event</i> | <i>Date & time</i> |
|--|---|
| <i>School Opens to Staff - INSET</i> | <i>Mon 30th & 31st Tues</i> |
| <i>School Opens to Staff - INSET</i> | <i>Tuesday 31st October</i> |
| <i>School Opens to pupils</i> | <i>Wednesday 1st Nov</i> |
| <i>VIP Visit to Forest View CYPS Director & Assistant Director</i> | <i>Wednesday 1st Nov</i> |
| <i>House Team Firework Art</i> | <i>Friday 3rd Nov</i> |
| <i>Pupil Parliament week</i> | <i>Mon 6th – Fri 10th Nov</i> |
| <i>Official Opening of Forest View</i> | <i>Thursday 9th November</i> |
| <i>M&M Theatre Productions</i> | <i>Friday 10th November</i> |
| <i>Sarah Champion - MP Visit to school</i> | <i>Friday 10th November</i> |
| <i>House Teams Diwali Art</i> | <i>Monday 13th November</i> |
| <i>Anti-Bullying Day</i> | <i>Friday 17th November</i> |
| <i>Parents & Carer Day 10.30 – 4.30pm</i> | <i>Wednesday 22th Nov</i> |
| <i>Careers & Post 16-19 Event, Forest View</i> | <i>Thursday 30th Nov</i> |
| <i>Christmas Jumper Day</i> | <i>Thurs 7th Dec</i> |
| <i>Christmas Fair at Kelford</i> | <i>Thurs 14th Dec</i> |
| <i>Primary Christmas Celebration</i> | <i>Mon 18th Dec</i> |
| <i>Secondary Christmas Show</i> | <i>Tues 19th Dec</i> |
| <i>Christmas Dinner</i> | <i>Wed 20th Dec</i> |
| <i>Christmas Parties</i> | <i>Friday 22nd</i> |
| <i>School Closes</i> | <i>Friday 22nd December</i> |

Check out these dates!!!



In sessions focussed on PSD (Personal and Social Development), pupils have been working on how to keep themselves safe and healthy. Practising routines in personal care and hygiene have been really helpful to this and link beautifully to opportunities to practise communication skills with the supporting adults.



Our assembly this week has a focus on what makes us all unique in order to raise some awareness of Children in Need and Antibullying Week.

SECONDARY

This week pupils continue to be hard at work on their time traveller's topic. Pupils in Holly are learning about their personal journeys through time linked to their sensory story "Rain before Rainbows" and this week they have been exploring light and dark. Beech and Willow have created some fantastic pictures of the Blitz whilst learning about the Second World War!

In science, Cherry class have been learning about materials. They have created hedgehogs using clay, stick and rocks. They have also been hard at work practicing their money skills as they prepare for the Christmas Fair later in the half term. Finally, in PE they have been having a go at badminton by using balloons instead of shuttlecocks.

Oak class have been getting to know their new staff team and are developing positive relationships! They have also done some amazing learning about French colours linked to their ASDAN accreditations.

A busy week in 6th form which has seen pupils out and about making friends at Social eyes and Community connect as they build links with community provisions and explore options for life after Kelford. They have also cooked a beautiful lasagne and visited Barnsley town centre working on their budgeting and independence skills!

FOREST VIEW

It's been an extremely busy, productive week at Forest View with students planning a variety of Enterprise ventures. Along with our Christmas Fair on the 6th December, we are in the process of building a Santa House within the school grounds for local children to come and visit. This will see every student at Forest View being involved in one big venture for the first time. Job roles have been advertised and students can apply for the industry related areas they feel they would enjoy the most. FV1 attended work related workshops at Print Imperials in Doncaster where they learnt about different types of printing methods. Over the next three weeks they will be printing personalised mugs and gift bags for sale in time for Christmas. We've also secured our first competitive football match with another school, we will share details once dates have been confirmed. Team Forest View are going from strength to strength – Super Proud!

HOUSE TEAM

Last week we celebrated our Diwali competition with classes getting creative and designing their own Rangoli patterns. Everyone was amazing in their commitment to designing something different and we were inundated with feathers, glitter rice, paint and clay! The results are below, well done to everyone involved with the challenge, the end products are below:



HOLMES



DALEY



HAWKING



MEAD



The judging was completed by our SLT and after the results were combined the final points were:

| | Firework Art | Diwali | Just Dance Off | Environment Challenge | Total | Position |
|---------|--------------|--------|----------------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------|
| Daley | 27 | 15 | | | 42 | 4th |
| Hawking | 300 | 32 | | | 332 | 1 st |
| Holmes | 133 | 33 | | | 166 | 2 nd |
| Mead | 143 | 20 | | | 163 | 3 rd |

The next House event will be a just dance-off competition on Friday 22nd December. Classes have chosen their songs at random and will be in touch with you via class dojo to announce what the song is, so keep a look out for that. Have a fab weekend and well done everyone for your continued efforts regarding the House system 😊

Have a lovely weekend!

Yours sincerely,

S. Mulhall

Sarah Mulhall – Executive Headteacher (Kelford & Pennine View)